Airports in M.P.

† 812. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of airports with Airports Authority of India in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) out of them the names of airports which are proposed to be made of international level; and

(c) the obstacles which are being faced to implement these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There are six airports, namely Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Khajuraho, Khandwa and Panna and one Civil Enclave at Gwalior Defence Airfield maintained by Airports Authority of India (AAI) in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) At present, there is no proposal for making any International level airport in Madhya Pradesh.

Declaration of a domestic airport as an international level airport requires availability of various facilities and infrastructure, traffic demand, commercial viability, firm commitment from airlines operators etc. As and when such preconditions are achieved, the action for upgradation of airport is initiated.

Development of airports in Madhya Pradesh

† 813. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of airports for the development of which land has been given to Airports Authority of India by Madhya Pradesh Government;

(b) the number of airports out of them in which the development work has been completed;

(c) whether demand of 5.87 acre of land has been made by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh from the Authority; and

(d) the action Government are taking towards meeting this demand?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) State Government of Madhya Pradesh has given 30 acres of land at Jabalpur Airport and 35566 acres of land at Khajuraho Airport to Airports Authority of India (AAI).

The development work has been completed at Jabalpur Airport and runway extension has been completed at Khajuraho Airport.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It has been decided to give 5.87 acres land on lease to State Government of Madhya Pradesh at a token fee of Re. 1/- subject to certain conditions.

Indigenous pilot training

814. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of pilots in4he next five years in the country and how will it be met by the Ministry; and

(b) the reasons for getting pilot training by Boeing and Airbus abraod and not in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The requirement of pilots is expected to grow with the growth in civil aviation sector and depends on number of aircraft inducted from time to time and their continued operations. The steps taken by the Ministry to meet the future requirement of pilots include increasing the training capacity of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Udan Academy (IGRUA), setting up of a new pilot training academy, relaxation of requirement of flying hours from 250 to 200 hours, relaxation in the upper age from 60 to 61 years subject to medical fitness and permitting appointment of foreign pilots.

(b) since simulators of Airbus and Boeing types of aircraft are not available with private airlines in India, pilots are sent for training on Boeing and Airbus abroad.

New aircrafts in Gulf-Kerala Sector

815. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of service which are being operated by Air India to Gulf sector from Thiruvananthapuram International airport;